

Prompt: What is your favorite word and why?

*"Filho! Vêm aqui."* Says my mom and my head snaps around amidst the chaos and chatter. Not Nic, not Nicolas, not Janis, but *Filho*. Portuguese for son, Filho is one of the first words I learned. It is my favorite word because it is the one that defines me, that makes me different. This is a word that represents me and my heritage, it is a word that shows that I am different. We all come from different places but are united under a common family. It is this sense of unity, family, and difference that the meaning of Filho has for me that makes it my favorite word. This idea that we all come from somewhere different, but unite together is the power of this word for me. Some may find it weird and some may not understand it, but to me, it is special. It is the ability to take something, even if it makes you different, and push through because there is a community and family somewhere. This is the power of Filho to me.